



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

September 30, 2019

RE: 2019-07-011

Ms. Emma Best
MuckRock News
DEPT. MR. 76383
411A Highland Ave.
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Email: 76383-29617573@requests.muckrock.com

VIA EMAIL

Dear Ms. Best:

This is the Department of the Treasury's (Treasury) final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated July 1, 2019. You requested "copies of records mentioning or describing Pride Month activities, events or observances in 2017, 2018 or 2019. This includes, but is not limited to:

- directives
- policies
- pride flag
- commemoration
- publications
- emails, memos, letters, and other communications with OGAs or the White House"

There are no fees assessed at this time since allowable charges fell below \$25.

Your request has been processed under the provisions of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552. A review was conducted on responsive documents totaling 73 pages, and sections of 42 pages will be withheld pursuant to Exemption 6 of the FOIA as described below.

FOIA Exemption 6 exempts from disclosure personnel or medical files and similar files the release of which would cause a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. This requires a balancing of the public's right to disclosure against the individual's right to privacy. The privacy interests of the individuals in the records you have requested outweigh any minimal public interest in disclosure of the information. Any private interest you may have in that information does not factor into the aforementioned balancing test.

Since Treasury's partial denial response constitutes an adverse action, you have the right to appeal this determination within 90 days from the date of this letter. By filing an appeal, you preserve your rights under FOIA and give the agency a chance to review and reconsider your request and the agency's decision. Your appeal must be in writing, signed by you or your representative, and should contain the rationale for your appeal. Please also cite the FOIA reference number noted above. Your appeal should be addressed to:

Ryan Law, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Privacy, Transparency and Records
FOIA Appeal
FOIA and Transparency
Privacy, Transparency, and Records
Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20220

If you submit your appeal by mail, clearly mark the letter and the envelope with the words "Freedom of Information Act Appeal." Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within **90 days** from the date of this letter.

If you would like to discuss this response before filing an appeal to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact Paul Levitan, the FOIA Public Liaison, for assistance via email at FOIAPL@treasury.gov, or via phone at (202) 622-8098.

A FOIA Public Liaison is a supervisory official to whom FOIA requesters can raise questions or concerns about the agency's FOIA process. FOIA Public Liaisons can explain agency records, suggest agency offices that may have responsive records, provide an estimated date of completion, and discuss how to reformulate and/or reduce the scope of requests in order to minimize fees and expedite processing time.

If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through our FOIA Public Liaison, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) also mediates disputes between FOIA requesters and federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. If you wish to contact OGIS, you may contact the agency directly at the following address, emails, fax or telephone numbers:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road – OGIS
College Park, MD 20740-6001
Email: ogis@nara.gov
Telephone: 202-741-5770
Toll free: 1-877-684-6448
Fax: 202-741-5769

Please note that contacting any agency official (including the FOIA analyst, FOIA Requester Service Center, FOIA Public Liaison) and/or OGIS is not an alternative to filing an administrative appeal and does not stop the 90-day appeal clock.

If additional questions arise concerning this action, please contact Samuel Giovannucci at (202) 622-1391; or via email at FOIA@treasury.gov. Please reference 2019-07-011.

Sincerely,

Paul Levitan
Director, FOIA & Transparency

Enclosures:
Copy of original FOIA request
Responsive Document Set (73 pages)